

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated April 29, 2009, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Claims 27-29 are added by the present amendment. Claims 1, 16, and 20 are independent claims.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-26 are amended including for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Further amendments include changing "in which" to --wherein--, correcting typographical errors, and changing spelling from British to American spelling, as well as correcting certain informalities noted upon review of the claims. By these amendments, claims 1-26 are not amended to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve the right to reintroduce subject

matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

By means of the present amendment, the drawings are amended to add the reference designation --102-- to FIG. 10, in conformance with the specification, such as noted on page 12, line 26 of the present application. A Replacement sheet including FIG. 10 is enclosed. Applicants respectfully request approval of the enclosed proposed drawing changes.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claim 16 is allowable if amended to be independent form.

Applicants have elected to add the subject matter indicated as allowable in claim 16 into independent claims 1 and 20 and to rewrite claim 16 in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 16 and 20 are allowable and it is respectfully requested that claims 1, 16, and 20 be allowed. Further, claims 2-15, 17-19, and 21-29 depend from one of claims 1, 16, and 20 and are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained therein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claims 2-15, 17-19, and 21-29 also be allowed.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

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Amendment in Reply to Office Action of April 29, 2009

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Replacement drawing sheet (1 sheet including FIG. 10)

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